

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing, and reconsideration and further examination of the subject application, in view of the amendments above and the remarks below, are respectfully requested.

By the above amendments, claims 16-17 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. In addition, claim 18 has been amended to correct an obvious technical error, and claim 19 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 18 as well as to make an editorial change. No new claims have been added. Thus, upon entry of the foregoing, claims 18-19 will remain pending in the application. Each of these claims is under consideration.

In the Office Action, claims 16, 17, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reiff (U.S. Patent No. 4,108,814) in view of Bright (*J. Appl. Chem. Biotechnol.*, 1975, **25**, 901-912). Applicants disagree with the propriety of the rejection. However, in an effort to expedite prosecution, Applicants have canceled the subject matter of those claims. Claim 19 has been rewritten to incorporate the subject matter of claim 18, which was indicated as being allowable. Therefore, the rejection is now moot, and should be withdrawn.


From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order, and such action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this Reply, or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 29, 2005

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